

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05607 121338Z

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 VO-03 SAB-01 SCA-01 SY-05 USSS-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 OIC-02 FBIE-00 L-03 /072 W

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R 121311Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8752

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0557

PANCANAL

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 5607

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, UNGA, PN

SUBJECT: SECVISIT 31ST UNGA: HIGH-LEVEL ATTENDANCE FROM PANAMA

REF: A. STATE 180074, B. PANAMA 5588

1. PER REF A, FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF
LIKELY HIGH-LEVEL ATTENDANCE FROM PANAMA AT 31ST UNGA.

2. WE ANTICIPATE THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD WILL
TRAVEL TO NEW YORK FOR 31ST UNGA AND WILL PROBABLY SPEND
SOME TIME THERE. AS PANAMA'S PERMREP UNTIL A FEW MONTHS AGO,
HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE BOTH MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT AND
MORE INTERESTED IN DOINGS OF UNGA THAN AVERAGE
FOREIGN MINISTER. HE WILL DOUBTLESS TAILOR HIS TRAVEL PLANS
TO ACCOMMODATE ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES REQUIRED OF HIM IN HIS
CAPACITY AS PANAMA'S CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FOR A NEW CANAL
TREATY. AS YET, WE HAVE NO FIRM INDICATION OF HIS ACTUAL
DATES OF TRAVEL, AND EXPECT NONE UNTIL QUITE CLOSE TO
OPENING OF 31ST UNGA.

3. OTHER HIGH-LEVEL ATTENDANCE AT UNGA WILL
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DEPEND ALMOST TOTALLY ON WAY IN WHICH PANAMA DECIDES TO

PLAY CANAL ISSUE, IF AT ALL, AT THIS YEAR'S SESSION.
AT THIS TIME (SEE REF B), WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT CHIEF
OF GOVERNMENT TORRIJOS, PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF
REPUBLIC WOULD PLAN TO ATTEND. HOWEVER, IF FOR SOME
REASON PANAMA SHOULD OPT BETWEEN NOW AND SEPTEMBER FOR
A MAJOR PUSH ON CANAL ISSUE AT THIS SESSION, ONE OF THESE
THREE COULD TRAVEL TO UNGA TO PRESENT HER CASE. WE
DO NOT EXPECT AT THIS TIME THAT THERE WILL BE A REQUEST
FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT.

4. ASSUMING THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD WILL BE AT
SESSION, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS BILATERAL WITH
SECRETARY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ARRIVAL OF BOTH
IN NEW YORK.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
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Disposition History: n/a
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